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April 15, 2008

Mrs. Susan Parker Bodine
Assistant Administrator
US Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20460-0001

Dear Administrator Parker Bodine:

Thank you for your letter dated April 10th, 2008, responding to my request for more funding for the cleanup in Libby. I would especially like to thank you for stating that "Libby has been and will continue to be one of the highest priorities of the Superfund Program." I am writing today to present you with an opportunity to align your actions with your words by devoting more funding this work period to the cleanup in Libby.

The community of Libby has suffered like no other Superfund site. Over 200 people have died from asbestos related diseases in Libby. While this is a tragedy of unprecedented scale, the greater tragedy will be if we allow another generation of people in Libby to be exposed to toxic tremolite asbestos. This need not be the case.

A March 17, 2008 report by the EPA Office of Inspector General identified roughly \$8 million sitting in Superfund special accounts that could be immediately transferred to other projects. According to the Inspector General report, "had Region 8 more timely reclassified these special account funds, cleanup needs at the Libby Superfund site or at other sites that receive Trust Fund appropriations may have been met sooner."

The report goes on to state that EPA Region 8 staffers expressed their intention to transfer some of this funding to the cleanup in Libby. I encourage you to take immediate steps to ensure that some of this funding is used to address priority needs in Libby and Troy. Whether finally getting the cleanup at Asa Wood Elementary done right or cleaning up the Libby golf course, there are many needs that could be immediately addressed with this \$8 million in unobligated funding. Please provide me with an accounting of how this \$8 million in unobligated funding will be spent, including what projects in Libby will be funded.

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I appreciate your commitment to "look for opportunities throughout the year to direct additional funding to the Libby site." The \$8 million in unobligated special accounts provides the perfect opportunity to make good on your commitment. I look forward to your response.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

My Bances

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